

**REMARKS**

Claims 1-27 are pending in this application.

Please amend the Specification as set forth herein. Please amend Claims 1, 26 and 27 as set forth herein. Please cancel Claim 25, without prejudice. No new matter has been added.

In the Office Action, the Examiner objected to the specification. The Examiner issued a Duplicate Claims Warning regarding Claims 1 and 25.

The Examiner rejected the Claims as follows. Claims 1-27 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §101 as being directed to non-statutory subject matter. Claims 25-27 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the written description requirement.

Claims 1, 2, 5, 6 and 24-27 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Minar ("Visualizing the crowds at a Web Site," The Java Applet at <http://www.media.mit.edu/~nelson/research/crowdvis>) and Andrews et al. ("Information Slices: Visualizing and Exploring Large Hierarchical using Cascading, Semi-Circular Discs"). Claims 3 and 4 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Minar in view of Andrews et al. and Hazlehurst (U.S. Patent No. 6,289,353). Claims 7-23 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Minar in view of Andrews et al. in view of Nortel ("WebQuery: Searching and Visualizing the Web through Connectivity").

This Response is being filed in accordance with the agreements reached between the Examiner and the Applicants' representative, Michael J. Musella, during Examiner's Interviews conducted on June 19, 26 and 28, 2007. It was agreed that the Amendments to the Specification and claims contained herein overcome the pending objections and rejections. The Examiner's assistance in these matters is greatly appreciated.

In addition, the title of the invention has been amended herein to recite, "SYSTEM, METHOD AND PROGRAM PRODUCT FOR PROVIDING NAVIGATIONAL INFORMATION FOR FACILITATING NAVIGATION AND USER SOCIALIZATION AT WEB SITES".

Also the specification has been amended at page 12, first full paragraph to update the status of the applications recited therein.

Regarding the rejection of Claims 1-27 under 35 U.S.C. §101, and in conformance with the above-referenced Examiner's Interview, Claims 1, 26 and 27 have been amended, and Claim 25 has been cancelled, to address and overcome the Examiner's rejection. Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that the rejection of Claims 1, 26 and 27 under 35 U.S.C. §101 be withdrawn.

Regarding the rejection of Claims 25-27, under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph, and in conformance with the above-referenced Examiner's Interview, Claims 26 and 27 have been amended, and Claim 25 has been cancelled, to address and overcome the rejections. Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that the rejection of Claims 25-27 under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph, be withdrawn.

Regarding the rejection of Claims 1, 26 and 27 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a), and in conformance with the above-referenced Examiner's Interview, these claims have been amended to recite, in part, "selecting one of the plurality of icons by a user; and returning additional information of people, activities or social interactions corresponding to the selected one of the plurality of icons, wherein the returned additional information comprises information facilitating socialization between the user with people, activities or social interactions corresponding to the selected one of the plurality of icons." It is respectfully submitted that the combination of Minar


and Andrews et al. does not teach or disclose at least these features.

Based on at least the foregoing, withdrawal of rejection of Claims 1, 26 and 27 is respectfully urged.

Independent Claims 1, 26 and 27 are believed to be in condition for allowance. Without conceding the patentability per se of dependent Claims 2-24, it is submitted that they are allowable at least by virtue of their dependencies on independent Claim 1. Accordingly, all of the claims pending in the application, namely Claims 1-24, 26 and 27, are believed to be in condition for allowance and allowance is respectfully requested.

Should the Examiner have any questions regarding this communication or feels that an interview would be helpful in advancing the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned attorney.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Musella", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

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